From: Simmons, Denise
To: Sheli
Subject: Re: Hewlett Packard
Date: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 9:27:21 AM

Dear Sheli,

Thank you for your email. So far, I have not yet seen an actual draft of the proposed resolution asking the City to cease purchasing HP equipment and supplies. I understand there's been a great deal of passionate discussion in the community about this matter – yet I must underscore that this will only appear on the City Council's April 23 agenda if one or more City Councilors sponsor it. We will not know if it is on the agenda until either a City Councilor publicly declares that they'll be sponsoring this (to my knowledge, this has not happened), or until the agenda is finalized by the Clerk's Office and posted online this Thursday evening around 5:30 pm.

There have been numerous op-eds, emails, and social media posts condemning the City Council for rushing this to a vote without adequate opportunities for the public to weigh in, or even giving people a chance to read the resolution. Some people have condemned the City Council for seemingly being on the brink of passing this resolution, and some have condemned the City Council for seemingly being on the brink of rejecting it. Neither of these scenarios is actually accurate. While I understand the passion behind this matter, I must clarify that we do not yet even have a resolution or policy order in front of us, there has been absolutely no debate about this amongst the City Councilors, and the City Council will not have an opportunity to discuss this amongst ourselves unless and until a resolution is sponsored by at least one of us and introduced at a public meeting.

I appreciate your reaching out and sharing your views on this. I am currently reading up on this issue to be better informed, I am reviewing all the emails and letters coming in about this issue, and I am reaching out to our representatives in Congress to seek their input on an issue that is more international than municipal in scope. Should this matter end up on before the City Council – either on April 23 or at a later date – I will look forward to engaging in a thoughtful discussion and debate with my colleagues on the Council and then seeing how to best resolve this matter in a way that allows everyone to feel they have had a fair chance to be heard. Thank you.

E. Denise Simmons

From: Sheli <sheliwortis@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 8:00 AM
To: City Council
Subject: Hewlett Packard

I have written before to express my criticism of the Israeli government's treatment of Palestinians but I feel the urgency to express that criticism again, this time to urge you to stop purchasing Hewlitt Packard merchandise. Hewlitt Packard provides Israel with equipment that is being used for surveillance and denial of rights to peaceful Palestinians.

Boycotts are effective and non-violent tactics for ending the use of corporate weapons that support apartheid. Cambridge joined the international boycott of Polaroid to help defeat apartheid in South Africa.
We need to again join with the growing international protest against corporations that allow their products to be used as instruments of oppression.

Please, let us show the world that Cambridge is a city that will only support technology that advances peace and justice.

Sincerely,

Sheli Wortis
106 Berkshire St.

Sent from XFINITY Connect Application